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BOROUGH OF BRACKLEY.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1960.



ARTHUR LUCAS

L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.

BOROUGH OF BRACKLEY.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for
the year 1960.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Brackley.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1960.

The vital statistics for the Borough are satisfactory. There were no deaths of infants under one year recorded during the year and the number of infectious diseases cases recorded was low. The death rate at 7.8 was low, and was the same as that recorded for 1957.

Your obedient Servant,

Arthur Lucas, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.,
D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

October, 1961.

Public Health Committee.

Councillor G.C. Hodges, (Chairman) The Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor E.A. Tutton, Alderman H.E. Ford, Alderman Mrs. P.A. Simons, Councillor A. Delves (Vice Chairman) Councillors A.J. Alcock, Mrs. R.M. Haverly, and P.H.E. Smith.

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health: Arthur Lucas, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. D.P.H.

Also holds appointments of:-

Medical Officer of Health, Brackley Rural District Council

Medical Officer of Health, Towcester Rural District Council

Medical Officer of Health, Northampton Rural District Council

Assistant Medical Officer of Health, Northamptonshire County

Council and Assistant School Medical Officer of Health Northamptonshire County Council.

Public Health Inspector: Clifford Morgan, C.R.S.H., who also holds the appointment of Borough Surveyor.

Summary of Vital Statistics, 1960.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Area of Borough (acres) | 1,685 |
| Population, estimated mid-year... .. | 3,190 |
| Number of inhabited houses, end of 1959 | 1,010 |
| Rateable Value of Borough 1st October 1959 | £33,307 |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate.. | £141 |

Extract from Vital Statistics for the year

| <u>Live births:</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Eng. & Wales</u> |
|---|--------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Legitimate | 26 | 23 | 49 | |
| Illegitimate... .. | 1 | 1 | 2 | 17.1 |
| Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated pop. 15.3 | | | | |

Still-Births: One still-birth was recorded during the year; this is equivalent to a still-birth rate per 1,000 (live and still-births) of 20.4 The rate for the Administrative County is 16.3 and that for England and Wales, 19.7

| | | | |
|--|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
| | 13 | 12 | 25 |
| Deaths (all causes) | | | |
| Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated pop. | 7.8 | Eng. & Wales | 11.5. |
| Deaths from puerperal causes: | | | |
| Puerperal sepsis | nil | | |
| Other puerperal causes... | nil | | |

Infant Mortality:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Deaths of infants under one year | nil |
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages)... .. | 7 |
| Deaths from measles | nil |
| Deaths from whooping cough.. | nil |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)... .. | nil |
| Deaths from pregnancy, child birth or abortion. | nil |

Area: There was no change during the year in the administrative area of the Borough which remains at 1,685 acres.

Population: The resident mid-year population of the Borough as estimated by the Registrar-General was 3,190 which is an increase of 50 on the previous year, and vital statistics are based on this figure.

Deaths: The total number of deaths assigned to the Borough by the Registrar General, after adjusting for inward and outward transferable deaths is 25. The death-rate calculated in the mid-year estimated population is 7.8 as compared with 10.88 for the administrative County of Northamptonshire and 11.5 for England and Wales.

A table giving a list of the causes of death in the Borough for the year under review classified under the various causes is given on page 3.

Births: The number of births which occurred in the Borough for the year was 49. This is equivalent to a birth-rate of 15.3. The rate for the administrative County was 17.7 and that for England and Wales, 17.1.

Infant Mortality: There were no infant deaths under one year recorded during the year under review. The rate for the County was 22.57 and that for England and Wales was 21.7.

| Year | Birth-rate | | | Death-rate | | | Infant Mortality- | | |
|------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| | Brackley Borough | Northamp- tonshire | England & Wales | Brackley Borough | Northamp- tonshire | England & Wales | Brackley Borough | Northamp- tonshire | England & Wales |
| 1956 | 20.3 | 16.67 | 14.60 | 10.00 | 11.24 | 11.30 | 15.8 | 19.68 | 23.80 |
| 1957 | 15.5 | 17.03 | 16.10 | 14.20 | 10.97 | 11.5 | 62.5 | 22.53 | 23.0 |
| 1958 | 19.6 | 16.9 | 16.4 | 7.7 | 11.1 | 11.7 | Nil | 19.7 | 22.5 |
| 1959 | 15.3 | 16.6 | 15.2 | 12.4 | 10.77 | 11.1 | 62.5 | 20.2 | 22.6 |
| 1960 | 15.3 | 17.7 | 17.1 | 7.8 | 10.88 | 11.5 | Nil | 22.57 | 21.7 |

Registered Causes of Death, 1960.

| Causes | | | | | | Male | Female | Total |
|------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|--------|-------|
| 1 | Tuberculosis, respiratory... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - | - | - |
| 2 | Tuberculosis, other forms... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - | - | - |
| 3 | Syphilitic disease | ... | ... | ... | ... | - | - | - |
| 4 | Diphtheria | ... | ... | ... | ... | - | - | - |
| 5 | Whooping Cough.. | ... | ... | ... | ... | - | - | - |
| 6 | Meningococcal infections | ... | ... | ... | ... | - | - | - |
| 7 | Acute Poliomyelitis... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - | - | - |
| 8 | Measles... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - | - | - |
| 9 | Other infective and parasitic diseases | | | | | - | - | - |
| 10 | Malignant neoplasm, stomach | ... | ... | | | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| 11 | Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | ... | | | | - | - | - |
| 12 | Malignant neoplasm, breast | ... | ... | | | - | - | - |
| 13 | Malignant neoplasm, uterus | ... | ... | | | - | - | - |
| 14 | Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms | | | | | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| 15 | Leukaemia, aleukaemia | ... | ... | ... | | - | - | - |
| 16 | Diabetes.. | ... | ... | ... | ... | - | - | - |
| 17 | Vascular lesions of nervous system | ... | | | | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 18 | Coronary disease, angina | ... | ... | ... | | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| 19 | Hypertension with heart disease.. | ... | | | | - | 1 | 1 |
| 20 | Other heart disease .. | ... | ... | ... | | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 21 | Other circulatory disease... | ... | ... | ... | | 1 | - | 1 |
| 22 | Influenza | ... | ... | ... | ... | - | - | - |
| 23 | Pneumonia.. | ... | ... | ... | ... | - | - | - |
| 24 | Bronchitis | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 25 | Other disease of respiratory system.. | | | | | 1 | - | 1 |
| 26 | Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | ... | ... | | | - | - | - |
| 27 | Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea | ... | | | | - | - | - |
| 28 | Nephritis and nephrosis | ... | ... | ... | | - | - | - |
| 29 | Hyperplasia of prostate | ... | ... | ... | | - | - | - |
| 30 | Pregnancy, child-birth, abortion | ... | | | | - | - | - |
| 31 | Congenital malformations | ... | ... | ... | | - | - | - |
| 32 | Other defined and ill-defined diseases | | | | | - | 1 | 1 |
| 33 | Motor vehicle accidents | ... | ... | ... | | - | - | - |
| 34 | All other accidents... | ... | ... | ... | | - | - | - |
| 35 | Suicide... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - | - | - |
| 36 | Homicide and operations of War... | ... | | | | - | - | - |
| All causes | | | | | | 13 | 12 | 25 |

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory Facilities: The examination of pathological specimens and samples of water is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Oxford. The service is free and Medical Practitioners in the Borough submit pathological specimens direct to the laboratory.

Ambulance Facilities: Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are removed and treated at the Isolation Hospitals at Northampton or Oxford.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade continued to operate their service during the year. The service operates under contract with the Hospital Management Authority and was available for the removal to hospital of surgical and non-infectious cases. The service, which is available by day and night, is free and is a great asset to residents of the Borough and surrounding area.

Treatment Centres and Clinics: The Infant Welfare Clinic continued to operate during the year and sessions were held on the second Thursday of every month at the Womens Institute, Manor Road, Orthopaedic Clinics, Vision Clinics and Dental Clinics for School Children which are organised by the County Council operated during the year under review. Preventive and after-care services for tuberculosis cases are administered by the County Council.

Nursing in the Home: The County Council operate a complete service within the Borough and "Home Helps" are available in connection with the infirm or chronic cases treated at home. The "After-Care" Committee which was established during the year 1955, continued to operate, and a body of willing workers organised efforts to obtain funds, and collect clothing for distribution to those in need.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

Water Supply: The main supply of water for the Borough is from a deep well with a fifteen inch bore hole at the bottom. A submersible electric pump is used to raise the water to two storage tanks of 120,000 and 12,000 gallons capacity respectively. The water is chlorinated but not filtered and samples taken periodically and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination showed that it was of good bacterial purity.

Water from the supplementary main of the Bucks Water Board System was used during the first three months of the year in order not to make undue demands in the Council's well and not unduly reduce the head level of the water in the bore hole.

The Bucks Water Board took over the Borough's water undertaking on 1st April 1960, and all plant, water mains etc., were vested in the Board from that date. The Board continued to use water from this source, and the supply for the needs of the Borough was sufficient, and, from the results of samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination, wholesome.

Sewage Disposal: The sewage disposal works comprising two filter beds, two sedimentation tanks, humas lagoons and electrical plant for lifting the level of one outfall sewer continued to function fairly satisfactorily. Difficulty is experienced in treating increased volumes during heavy rains. With the exception of thirty-one houses in outlying parts of the district where levels will not permit connection with the system of the sewers, all premises are connected to the sewerage.

During the year the Council's Consultants submitted a scheme for the extension of the sewage works to provide for more efficient treatment of sewage and the trade effluent from the Fatstock Marketing Corporation's Broiler Factory established in the Borough in 1959. The estimated cost of the works was £34,000, and provided for, holding tanks for the effluent from the Broiler Factory, enlarged filter beds, increased capacity for sludge, and provision for land treatment of overflow from the works following heavy rains. The extension of the works was commenced at the end of the year under review.

Rivers and Streams: No complaints were received regarding pollution of the River Ouse into which the effluent from the sewage works discharges.

Camping Sites: There are no camping sites in the Borough.

Smoke Abatement: No action was found necessary in connection with the smoke abatement.

Swimming Pool: The swimming pool owned by the Council was used during the year and was filled once with water from the Council's mains. The sand filter and plant installed last year continued to operate satisfactorily and the water was clear throughout the long season which was one of the best for many years.

Eradication of bed bugs: No action was found necessary in connection with premises infested with bed bugs.

Public Cleansing: House refuse was collected weekly using direct labour and a "Bantam" Karrier covered refuse collecting vehicle. One part of the Borough was covered on Thursdays and the other on Fridays. The refuse is disposed of by tipping at a point in the Borough where no nuisance is caused.

Rodent Control: A part-time rodent control operator is employed to carry out this work. The services of the operator continued to be free to householders who readily report the presence of rodents in and around their premises. A charge is made for the treatment of business premises. Warfarin with oatmeal base continued to give satisfactory results. The total number of inspections made during the year was as follows:-

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|----|
| Local authority premises... | ... | ... | 39 |
| Dwelling houses | ... | ... | 13 |
| All other, including business premises | | | 38 |
| Total ... | ... | ... | 90 |

The number of minor infestations found was 9 ; these were treated with good results. Baits are regularly laid at the refuse tip and sewage works and if found necessary treated with poison.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR

Number of visits and inspections:-

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|
| Visits and inspections at slaughter-house... | ... | ... | 125 |
| Inspections of butchers' shops.. | ... | ... | 15 |
| Inspections of bakehouses | ... | ... | 12 |
| Inspections of meat hawkers' vans | ... | ... | 10 |
| Inspections of fried fish shops | ... | ... | 8 |
| Inspections of other food shops | ... | ... | 48 |
| Inspections in connection with rodent control | ... | ... | 90 |
| Inspections of factories and workshops | ... | ... | 25 |
| Housing inspections | ... | ... | 112 |
| Number of old drainages tested | ... | ... | 6 |
| Number of new drainages tested | ... | ... | 10 |

SECTION D

HOUSING

The erection of a block of four Council houses commenced during September of the year 1959 was completed during the year under review. The total number of Council houses built since the War is 208. The number of private enterprise houses completed during the year was 6 and there were 6 under construction at the end of December.

In order to make the most of a plot of land where the services were reasonably available, the Council had under consideration at the end of year, the erection of five blocks of dwellings, three 3 storey and two 4 storey, with 38 garages. The five blocks would comprise 14 old peoples' one bed flats and 36 maisonettes. The work of erection was not commenced during the year.

Slum Clearance:- No action was taken during the year in connection with 21 dwellings which have been scheduled as unfit for human habitation. These were included in a statement submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in 1955 as being unfit for habitation within the meaning of Section 9 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and suitable for action under Section 11 or Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Improvement Grants: The Council discontinued the operation of the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949 relating to improvement grants whereby grants are available towards the cost of additional amenities provided by owners to their property. The Act provides for a grant of half the cost of the amenities provided subject to a maximum of £400. The provisions of the House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 relating to "Standard" grants which are obligatory on the part of the Council make available for owners grants for providing any or all of the five standard amenities in their houses. The dwelling after improvement must be equipped with all five amenities, that is, a fixed bath or shower, wash basin, water closet, hot water supply and satisfactory facilities for storing food. If all five amenities are provided the maximum grant is £155 or one half of the total cost whichever is the less. Seven applications were received for this Grant during the year and the total grants involved was £902.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply: The number of retailers in the Borough is 3 who hold supplementary licences for the sale of Tuberculin Tested, Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised and Pasteurised Milk. All milk retailed in the Borough is produced outside the area.

Food Hygiene Regulations: The Regulations provide for the cleanliness of food premises, hygienic methods of handling food, the cleanliness of persons engaged in the food trade and the action to be taken when they suffer from or are carriers of certain infections. There are 24 food shops in the Borough where food is sold, served or prepared for sale. The shops are regularly visited and a high standard of cleanliness is maintained.

Meat and Other Foods: The licenced slaughter-house continued to operate during the year. The numbers of animals slaughtered were as follows:-

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Bovines... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 230 |
| Sheep and lambs | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1117 |
| Pigs | ... | ... | ... | ... | 194 |
| Calves | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14 |

Regular visits were made to the slaughter-house for inspection, and the approximate weight of meat and offal found to be diseased and unfit for consumption was 11cwt 2qrs 7lbs.

Diseased meat and offal were regularly collected by a reputable merchant for further utilisation.

Sixteen pounds pork luncheon meat and 56 pounds of skinned dry milk powder were also voluntarily surrendered.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955: The provisions of this Act relating to the nature and substance of food supplied to the public are operated by the County Council. Mr. A.E. Waller the Chief Inspector, to whom I am indebted, has supplied the following schedule of samples taken in the Borough during the year under review all of which were entirely satisfactory for the fourth successive year:-

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Milk... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Cream.. | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Butter | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Cheese | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Ice Cream | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Biscuits | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Tinned meat & vegetables | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Medicines | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Orange drink | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

SECTION F PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Eight cases of measles were reported during the year

Vaccination and Immunisation: The following particulars of vaccination and immunisation carried out during the year have been supplied by Dr. C.M. Smith, County Medical Officer of Health to whom I am indebted:-

Smallpox Vaccination

| | Under 1. | 1. | 2-4. | 5-14 | 15 or over. | Total. |
|-----------------|----------|----|------|------|-------------|--------|
| Primary | 14 | 18 | 6 | - | 4 | 42 |
| Re-vaccination. | - | - | 1 | 6 | 5 | 12 |

Polio-myelitis Vaccination

| | | | | | | | | | | Third injections |
|----------|----|----|----|----|------|-------|-------|------------|----------|------------------|
| Under 1. | 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5-9. | 10-14 | Total | 15 or over | all ages | |
| 1 | 25 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 48 | 230 | 251 | |

Diphtheria Immunisation

| | Under 1. | 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5-9. | 10-14. | Total | Booster |
|------------------------------------|----------|----|----|----|----|------|--------|-------|---------|
| Diphtheria Immunisation only | 2 | | | | 1 | | 1 | 4 | 4 |
| Combined diphtheria/Whooping cough | 19 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | 27 | 17 |
| Triple | 4 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 5 | 16 |
| Total diphtheria Immunisations | 25 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 36 | 37 |
| Whooping cough only. | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 2 | 1 |

Number of Children who have completed a full Course of Diphtheria Immunisation.

| Age at 31.12.60. i.e. born in year. | Under 1. 1960 | 1. 1959 | 2. 1958 | 3. 1957 | 4. 1956 | 5-9. 1951 1955 | 10-14. 1946 1950 | Total. Under 15. |
|--|------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Number immunised | 5 | 31 | 47 | 25 | 37 | 172 | 207 | 524 |

Tuberculosis: One new case of pulmonary tuberculosis was reported during the year. The numbers of cases on the Register at the end of the year were as follows:-

| | Males | Females | Total |
|---------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Pulmonary... | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Non-Pulmonary | 1 | - | 1 |
| Total | 4 | 1 | 5 |

